

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



EPA's BEACH Report:

Michigan 2007 Swimming Season

July 2008

Introduction

The BEACH Act of 2000 requires that coastal and Great Lakes states and territories report to EPA on beach monitoring and notification data for their coastal recreation waters.

The BEACH Act defines coastal recreation waters as the Great Lakes and coastal waters (including coastal estuaries) that states, territories, and authorized tribes officially recognize or designate for swimming, bathing, surfing, or similar activities in the water.

This fact sheet summarizes beach monitoring and notification data submitted to EPA by the State of Michigan for the 2007 swimming season.

Figure 1. Michigan coastal counties.

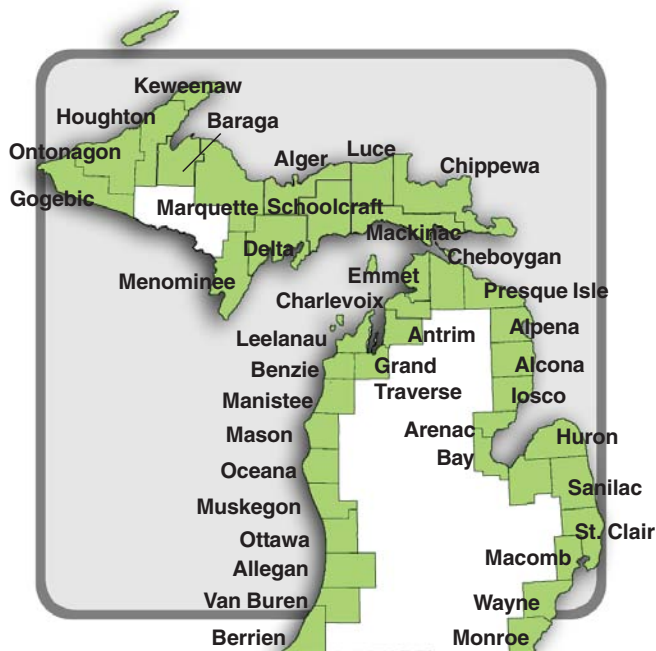


Table 1. Breakdown of monitored and unmonitored coastal beaches by county for 2007.

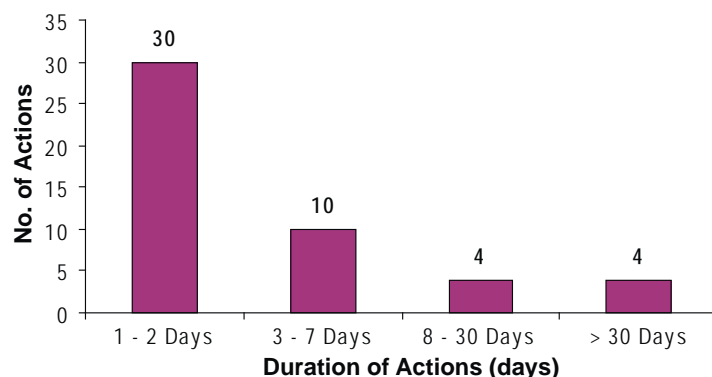
County	Total Beaches	Monitored	Not Monitored
ALCONA	17	1	16
ALGER	25	0	25
ALLEGAN	11	5	6
ALPENA	23	5	18
ANTRIM	28	5	23
ARENAC	32	8	24
BARAGA	24	1	23
BAY	10	5	5
BENZIE	14	1	13
BERRIEN	33	13	20
CHARLEVOIX	19	13	6
CHEBOYGAN	24	4	20
CHIPPEWA	37	6	31
DELTA	55	2	53
EMMET	34	11	23
GOGEBIC	10	1	9
GRAND TRAVERSE	44	5	39
HOUGHTON	24	7	17
HURON	41	12	29
IOSCO	24	8	16
KEWEENAW	28	1	27
LEELANAU	66	3	63
LUCE	17	0	17
MACKINAC	63	2	61
MACOMB	13	4	9
MANISTEE	18	9	9
MARQUETTE	9	5	4
MASON	19	7	12
MENOMINEE	11	2	9
MONROE	13	4	9
MUSKEGON	19	12	7
OCEANA	16	6	10
ONTONAGON	19	2	17
OTTAWA	15	9	6
PRESQUE ISLE	37	4	33
SANILAC	23	4	19
SCHOOLCRAFT	15	1	14
ST. CLAIR	25	14	11
VAN BUREN	8	4	4
WAYNE	7	2	5
TOTALS	970	208	762

2007 Summary Results

How many notification actions were reported and how long were they?

Michigan's approach is to issue a beach advisory when water quality standards are exceeded at a particular beach that warns people to avoid contact with the water. A total of 32 monitored beaches had at least one advisory issued during the 2007 swimming season. About 63 percent of Michigan's 48 notification actions lasted two days or less. Figure 2 presents a full breakdown of notification action durations.

Figure 2: Beach notification actions by duration.



What percentage of days were beaches under a notification action?

For Michigan's 2007 swimming season, actions were reported about 3 percent of the time (Figure 3).

How do 2007 results compare to previous years?

Table 2 compares 2007 notification action data with monitored beach data from previous years.

What pollution sources impact monitored beaches?

There are no known sources of pollution for most of Michigan's monitored beaches (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Beach days with and without notification actions.

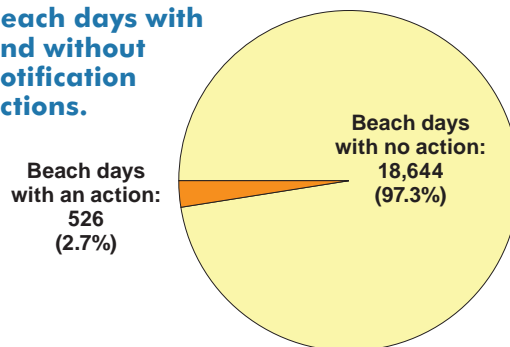


Table 2. Beach notification actions, 2005–2007.

	2005	2006	2007
Number of monitored beaches	214	211	208
Number of beaches affected by notification actions	27	42	32
Percentage of beaches affected by notification actions	13%	20%	15%
Percentage of beach days affected by notification actions	2%	2%	3%

For More Information

For general information about beaches:
www.epa.gov/beaches/

For information about beaches in Michigan:
www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/public/default.aspx

Figure 4: Percent of monitored beaches potentially impacted by pollution sources (208 beaches).

